



INTRODUCTION

Grand Master Julie Scott, SRC

In our last issue of the *Rosicrucian Digest*, we presented numerous selections from well-known Rosicrucian writers from AMORC's modern era. The pieces that ran in these pages last time were meant to inspire our readers, and we asked members to send us their art and writing that were influenced by their experiences with AMORC. Judging by the volume of responses we received, it was a rousing success. Many of you sent in artwork, poetry, and prose selections that you wished to share with the AMORC community and beyond.

The diversity of authors and artists, and the fascinating way that was reflected in the selections they shared, was inspiring for us, because it shows that the Rosicrucian teachings can have an impact across a wide range of backgrounds.

The artwork we received ranged from abstract to intricate, and from traditional mediums to digital ones. Bright blooms of color burst off our screens from works by Brian Eppley and Yulia Schichkova. Artist Nikki Schiro, whose work may be familiar to longtime *Digest* readers, challenged our perspectives with her four vibrant selections in this issue. Geoffrey Geiger sent in some digital selections that open up to many mystical interpretations. Additionally, artists like Lourdes Metz, Kavon Sadler, Gurinder Singh, Karla Phillips, and Oksana Rosenman gave us selections that present familiar mystical subjects in moving new ways.

Two artists also submitted poetry with their artwork: Amira Carluccio created the "Colombe" poem along with its accompanying art, and so did Debby Nelson with "Alchemical Rainbow."

The poetry we selected for this issue largely focuses on themes familiar to initiates: the heart, alchemy, the rose, and the "Universal One." Poets Ann MacDonald, Amatus Forsac, Nancy Vairat, and Victor Jimenez challenged us to look at these familiar subjects from a new, more personal perspective.

In addition to these poems, poets Amarillo Mills, Melvia Agbeko Odemakpore, JoAnn Adams, and Jackelyni Reis presented us with selections on mystical themes that expand our understanding of subjects like self-discovery, nature, and love.

The prose selections for this issue also largely focus on personal reflections of how AMORC has helped shape members' lives. Authors Michael Shaluly, Ralph Denner, Beth Lyons, Stella Nwakaego, Anita Bowden, Charles Larcomb, Francisco Guzman, Chris Barton, and Venus Zamorra all provide us with unique windows into their experiences on the mystical path, and show us directly the positive and nurturing effects of Rosicrucian study. These prose pieces take a deeper dive into AMORC's lasting effects on members' understanding of the world around them and their place in it.

We hope that this issue does not end the chain of inspiration that Rosicrucian teachings are designed to create. We created this issue to stoke the spark of creativity and wonder that students of mysticism carry with them in their daily lives.

So Mote It Be!

